GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:134
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Accidents on Indian Waters
P. Shri Nagarajan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents involving Indianships/vessels on sea water/Indian water andNational Waterways have been reported,and if so, the details thereof during the lastthree years and the current year;
(b) the loss of life and property as aresult thereof;
(c) the rescue and relief mechanism inplace;
(d) the number of domestic andinternational ships/vessels which sunk during the said period; and
(e) whether the Government proposesto upgrade and fine tune the rescue and relief operation, and if so, the detailsthereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISNAN)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 134 FOR 24.11.2016 REGARDING ACCIDENTS ON INDIAN WATERS

(a) (i) Details of the marine accidents reported under section 358 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as amended from time to time involving Indian flag ships/vessels at sea/ Indian waters during the last three years and the current year are as under:-

2013 2014 2015 2016(till 31st October.)
38 20 8 21

(ii)No accidentinvolving Indian cargo ship/vessel has been reported in the National Waterways in the last three years and the current year.

(b) (i) Details of incidents involving loss of life and property reported under section 358 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 in sea water/Indian water are as under:-

2013 2014 2015 2016 (till 31st October)
Loss of life 05 06 01 01
Loss of Property 23 11 07 13

(ii)No loss of life and property has been reported in the National Waterways during the last three years and current year.

(c):Details of the rescue and relief mechanism in place are:-

(i) The Directorate General of Shipping has 24/7 communication centre where informationwith regard to any marine casualty on or near the coast of India of any Indianship is required to be reported in accordance with the section 358 of the MerchantShipping Act, 1958, as amended.
(ii)Immediately on receipt of a report, the information related to such accident is forwarded to the concerned Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Center (MRCC) of the Indian Coast Guard which has been mandated to coordinate National maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) objectives. Director General, Coast Guard is the National Maritime Search and Rescue Coordinating Authority (NMSARCA).
(iii) There is an International Convention on Search and Rescue [SAR Convention]adopted internationally in the year 1979. India is a party to the said Convention.

(iv) As far as National Waterways are concerned, Inland Waterways Authority ofIndia (IWAI) deploys multipurpose Tugs (MPT) onNational Waterways forrescue and relief operations.

(d) Number of domestic and international ships/vessels which sunk in the Sea Water/Indian Water during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

2013 2014 2015 2016(till 31st October)
Domestic ships 3 1 0 1
International ships 2 0 1 1

(e) To upgrade and fine tune the rescue and relief operation, Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducts exercises, the outcome of which is incorporated into their Standard Operating Procedures/training programmes. As far as National Waterways are concerned, there is adequate existing arrangement to meet the contingencies of rescue and relief operations.

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